

1 (At 2:05 p.m. in Courtroom Altn. 3B.)

2 DEPUTY CLERK: Oyez, oyez, oyez, all matter and
3 persons having anything to do before the United States District
4 Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, which has been
5 in continuous session since November 10th, 1789 and which is here
6 held on this day, let them come forward and they shall be heard.
7 God save the United States and this Honorable Court.

8 Court is now in session in the matter of the USA
9 versus Sarah Norton, Criminal Action No. 18-171.

10 THE COURT: We are here today for a sentencing
11 hearing, Mr. Wood, would you administer the oath to the
12 defendant, please?

13 DEPUTY CLERK: Ms. Norton, please raise you right
14 hand.

15 SARAH NORTON, DEFENDANT, SWORN.

16 THE DEFENDANT: I do.

17 DEPUTY CLERK: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Norton, do you understand that you are
19 now under oath and if you answer any of my questions falsely,
20 your answers may later be used against you in another
21 prosecution for perjury or for making false statements, do you
22 understand that?

23 THE DEFENDANT: I understand.

24 THE COURT: If I say anything that you do not
25 understand, I want you to interrupt me and ask me to explain it

1 and I'll be happy to do so.

2 You may consult with your lawyer at any time during
3 the proceedings and I will take a break, so you can do so,
4 privately, if you wish.

5 In light of the ongoing nature of the COVID 19
6 pandemic, I am going to request that, the lawyers and the
7 defendant and all of the people in the courtroom, follow certain
8 guidelines today.

9 First, please do not touch the microphones, as we are
10 trying to limit the number of touch points in the courtroom.

11 Second, as best you can, please, maintain a six-foot
12 distance from one another.

13 Third, everyone should keep their face masks on at all
14 times during the hearing.

15 Please speak clearly, so there are no issues with the
16 audio recording.

17 If at any time, you cannot understand or hear me,
18 please let me know, so I can speak louder and more clearer.

19 And lastly, everyone should remain seated in their
20 seats at all times.

21 I am going to ask the lawyers, initially, if you would
22 consent to these -- following these guidelines?

23 MS. STEPHAN: Yes, your Honor.

24 MR. GLASSMAN: Yes, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right.

1 And Ms. Norton, do you consent to the guidelines?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 Before we would proceed, Counsel, are there any other
5 matters, you would want to call to my attention about COVID 19,
6 before we would proceed?

7 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

8 MR. GLASSMAN: No, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 For the record, Ms. Stephan, are there any victims of
11 the offenses present in the courtroom?

12 MS. STEPHAN: No, there are not.

13 THE COURT: And for the record, has the Government
14 fulfilled its duty to notify any victims of the hearing and
15 their right to attend?

16 MS. STEPHAN: Yes, we -- we have, your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 And you may remain seated.

19 MS. STEPHAN: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: On April 26th of 2018, an indictment was
21 filed charging the defendant with the following:

22 Enticement of a minor to engage in illicit sexual
23 conduct in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section
24 2422(b). And travel to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a
25 minor in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section

1 2423(b) .

2 After a three-day jury trial in December of 2019, the
3 defendant was found guilty on all charges.

4 I've read and reviewed the presentence report prepared
5 by Leslie Maxwell dated February 29 of 2020 and revised on March
6 16th of 2020.

7 I have also received and reviewed the following:

8 From the Government, a sentencing memorandum dated
9 November 16th, 2020. And a victim impact statement from the
10 minor victim's father.

11 And from the defendant, I have received and reviewed a
12 sentencing memorandum dated November 16 of 2020. Information on
13 medullary sponge kidney. And a total of eight letters in
14 support of the defendant received by us friends and family.

15 Counsel, any other letters or documents for submission
16 to the Court today?

17 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

18 MR. GLASSMAN: No, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 Mr. Glassman, for the record, have you and your client
21 read and discussed the presentence report?

22 MR. GLASSMAN: The presentence report was reviewed by
23 myself as well as my client, yes.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 And Ms. Norton, you've reviewed the presentence report

1 with your lawyer, correct?

2 THE DEFENDANT: I reviewed it by myself, yes.

3 THE COURT: And did you review it with your lawyer?

4 THE DEFENDANT: No.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Would you like any time to do that today?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Ah, I -- I don't really know, how this
8 goes, ah, I just --

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 Why don't we do this, why don't we take just a short
11 break for you to talk privately with Mr. Glassman, just to make
12 sure that if there is any questions or any issues, that you can
13 talk privately with him. And if there are none, that's fine,
14 too --

15 THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

16 THE COURT: -- but I want to give you that opportunity.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 Nick and Dawn, where is the best place for the two of
20 them to confer -- Ms. Norton and her lawyer, privately -- would
21 it be in the quarters adjacent here?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They can do that back in the
23 cell.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 Why don't we have the two of you go back in the cell.

1 And Mr. Glassman, let us know when you would like to
2 reconvene.

3 MR. GLASSMAN: Sure, okay.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 Mr. Wood, would you declare a brief recess?

6 DEPUTY CLERK: Court is in recess.

7 (Recess is held at 2:10 p.m.)

8 (At 2:23 p.m. in open court.)

9 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 Mr. Wood, everyone has returned to the court, would
12 you reopen court, please?

13 DEPUTY CLERK: Court is again in session.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 We had an off-the-record -- there was an off-the-
16 record private meeting between the defendant, Ms. Norton and her
17 attorney and they have now returned to the courtroom, so, we
18 will resume the hearing.

19 Ms. Norton, getting back to the questions, we were --
20 we were asking.

21 Have you now had a chance to review the presentence
22 report with your lawyer?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

24 THE COURT: And has your lawyer answered all of your
25 questions about the report?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: And are you satisfied with your lawyer's
3 representation of you?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Although there were no formal objections
6 to the presentence report that were raised with the Probation
7 officer, the Court will consider the defendant's objections that
8 were presented in the sentencing memorandum.

9 The defendant has raised two objections, the first,
10 the defendant objections to the two-level enhancement under
11 Section 2G1.3B2A, for misrepresenting her age to the minor
12 victim to entice the minor to engage in or continue the
13 prohibited sexual conduct.

14 Second, the defendant objects to the two-level
15 enhancement, pursuant to Section 3C1.1 for obstruction of
16 justice for making a materially-false statement during her trial
17 testimony.

18 I have reviewed those submissions that have been
19 received from counsel on these matters and if they would wish to
20 present any argument, I am willing to hear it now.

21 Mr. Glassman, anything else you'd want to present on
22 this -- either of these -- issues?

23 MR. GLASSMAN: Judge, the cornerstone of both of those
24 arguments are -- and remain -- the defendant's position that she
25 did not travel across state lines for the purposes of engaging

1 in sex with the minor.

2 Beyond that statement, the defendant did cooperate
3 with the authorities. She gave a statement when she was asked
4 to do so. She exercised her right to proceed to trial, which
5 she had the right to do.

6 The jury's determination, was based on the evidence
7 that was presented during the course of the trial. What it
8 wasn't based on and what couldn't be presented during the course
9 of the trial, is Ms. Norton's state of mind, when she engaged in
10 the conduct for which she is going to be sentenced for.

11 What I mean by that is, it's the jury's call with
12 regard to her state of mind and whether or not, traveled across
13 state lines for that purpose. Obviously, they made that
14 determination with the -- with what tools they had and did the
15 best that they could. Ms. Norton still maintains that that is
16 the facts.

17 And having said that, to call proceeding to trial, she
18 obstructed justice, really, is at odds with, I think, what her
19 constitutional rights are. And it's not as if she exercised
20 that right in the face of an answer to the question of whether
21 or not, Ms. Norton is telling the truth, when she decided to
22 travel across state lines.

23 The jury's determination of the truth, is -- is as
24 good as we'd have to work with, but I think, there is a bigger
25 issue at -- at stake.

1 So, that -- that would be my position with regard to
2 the obstruction.

3 With regard to the age scenario, I think during the
4 course of the byplay with -- with the minor, the age issue was
5 minimized to the point where it didn't have an impact on any of
6 the proceedings. In other words, I don't think that was an
7 issues here. And I think, there are enough facts with regard to
8 what transpired between these individuals, that the age
9 manipulation at one point, sort of evaporated.

10 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

11 Let's turn to the Government, Ms. Stephen.

12 MS. STEPHAN: Thank you, your Honor.

13 First, I'll start with age, I think, it's crystal-
14 clear and Ms. Norton did not deny it when she testified, that
15 she told the victim, she was twenty-five-years old. To say that
16 that's not a significant fact in this case to me, is -- it
17 totally defies the evidence in this case.

18 She was targeting a fourteen-year-old boy, had she
19 told the fourteen-year-old boy she was a thirty-eight-year-old
20 mar -- ah, mother of three, who was in a relationship, she would
21 have been less likely to succeed in her crime. She told the boy
22 that she was twenty-five-years old. She didn't represent that
23 she was engaged in any kind of relationship, whatsoever. She
24 did that, so that the boy would communicate with her, so that
25 she could then go on to commit her crime.

1 Had she said, she was thirty-eight-years old, we may
2 not be sitting here today, your Honor. So, the fact -- and she
3 admits, she told him she was twenty-five -- significantly
4 effects this case. She did misrepresent her identity, she did
5 her age and I think, the enhancement is appropriate on that
6 fact.

7 As far as the second one, your Honor, the enhancement
8 for obstruction of justice, I also think that applies clearly
9 here.

10 I think there were numerous occasions where she
11 perjured herself at trial. I should point out first, that just
12 because she is a defendant on trial and chooses to testify, she
13 takes the oath like anybody else takes, she is obligated to tell
14 the truth, that is the cornerstone of our entire system, the
15 witnesses, who get on the stand are expected to tell the truth.

16 And that does not go away just because she is the
17 defendant in this case. She did not have to testify, but she
18 choose to do so.

19 In doing so, she made several perjurer statements
20 that were completely belied by the evidence. I will focus on
21 two for the purpose of this argument.

22 The first is, that she said -- and it has been
23 repeated here -- she had no intent when crossing state lines to
24 have sexual contact with the minor, she testified to that very
25 clearly. Yes -- yes, that was her defense, I totally get that.

1 But she chose to go on the stand and tell that lie.

2 The jury has spoken, the jury has said, that's not
3 true, beyond a reasonable doubt, that is not true. Because one
4 of the elements of the crime is, that she had to come in to
5 Pennsylvania with the intent to sexually exploit a child and she
6 said, the exact opposite.

7 So, I think, once again, the facts show, she did not
8 tell the truth on that point, the jury confirmed that she did
9 not tell the truth on that point. And the cases make it clear
10 that lying like that, is a reason to find that she obstructed
11 justice or misrepresented herself to the Court.

12 The second issue, which is even more concrete, I would
13 argue, is that she testified at the trial, that she never went
14 back to the park. So, to put that argument into some
15 perspective, if your Honor recalls from the trial, the morning
16 that she was supposed to meet with the victim, she met with him
17 at the park that morning. The victim had to go meet with his
18 parents for lunch, so he did that and the expectation was, when
19 lunch was over, he was going to go back to the park.

20 Her testimony was, she saw him, realized, essentially,
21 what she was doing was wrong, never went back to the park that
22 day, that was her testimony, she never went back to the
23 afternoon to meet the child.

24 But as your Honor is aware from the trial, we have
25 both her text messages as well as her cell-site data that

1 completely belie that point. Her testimony was, I believe, she
2 went to some festival or something and then, eventually, made
3 her way back to home.

4 So, what we know from the text messages that were
5 presented at trial is, that -- here is one at 3:31 p.m. -- she's
6 saying:

7 She's about to leave, so you're sure about not seeing
8 me?

9 Now, the victim's parents already knew what was going
10 on, so the victim is not responding at this point.

11 At 3:55, she said:

12 Okay. I waited some more and no reply. I feel so,
13 so very stupid.

14 At 3:29, she said:

15 I've waited long enough for empty promises.

16 And what we know during this time, is that when she is
17 sending these text messages, her phone is hitting in the same
18 park she met the victim in that morning. So, the trial evidence
19 conclusively puts her in that park at that time, where she said,
20 she was not. That is a complete perjured statement.

21 Your Honor, again, I don't think it gets any more
22 clear than that, she was there, her text messages prove it, she
23 wasn't on her way home at that point in time, she was sitting in
24 the park waiting for the victim, telling him, she feels stupid
25 and where is he?

1 So, your Honor, I think on those two things, the law
2 is very clear, if she perjures herself, then the obstruction
3 enhancement must apply. If you find that that's what she did at
4 trial, then, the two-level enhancement is appropriate.

5 And then once again, your Honor, just because she is
6 the defendant, it does not give her the right to misrepresent
7 herself or lie to the jury or to this Court. So, I'd ask the
8 Court to apply the enhancement.

9 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

10 I am going to overrule both objections.

11 As to the enhancement under Section 2G1.3B2A for
12 misrepresentation, the defendant was able to unlawfully, entice
13 the minor victim to engage in illicit sexual conduct by lying to
14 the minor about her own age and parental status.

15 The defendant knowing that the minor victim was only
16 fourteen years old, led him to believe that she was twenty-five
17 years old, when in fact, she was thirty-eight years of age.

18 The defendant also misrepresented to the minor victim,
19 that she did not have children, despite the fact that she had
20 three children.

21 After the police were contacted, the minor victim was
22 reluctant to speak with the police about the details of his
23 contacts with the defendant, but clearly expressed that he was
24 upset about the defendant's misrepresentation as to her age and
25 lack of children.

1 Accordingly, the defendant's misrepresentations were
2 central to the enticement and the -- the two-level enhancement
3 is appropriate here.

4 Second, as to the enhancement under Section 3C1.1 for
5 obstruction of justice, the Court is of the view that, this was
6 properly applied, because the defendant provided the jury with
7 materially-false testimony, that she never intended to engage in
8 sexual activity with the minor victim.

9 When questioned about the extremely graphic and sexual
10 messages she sent to the minor victim, both before traveling to
11 and while in Pennsylvania, the defendant testified that she was
12 only playing. The number and content of these messages refute
13 this.

14 Further, by convicting the defendant of Count 2, the
15 jury necessarily rejected the defendant's testimony on this
16 material issue.

17 Contrary to the defense's suggestion that the
18 enhancements punish the defendant for maintaining her innocence
19 and electing to proceed to trial, she did not merely hold the
20 Government to its burden of proof, but rather, she specifically
21 denied under oath, any intent to entice the minor victim or to
22 travel to engage in sexual conduct.

23 So, we are going to overrule both objections.

24 Mr. Glassman, I just want to make sure you have a full
25 opportunity to present any other objections that you may have,

1 in light of your meeting with your client today, any other
2 objections?

3 MR. GLASSMAN: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

5 Having reviewed the report, I adopt and credit the
6 presentence report, the factual findings and the guideline
7 calculations.

8 The defendant's total offense level is 34, her
9 criminal history score is zero, which results in a criminal
10 history category of I. This combination produces a guideline
11 range of 151 to 188 months of imprisonment, a term of five years
12 to a lifetime of supervised release, a fine range of \$35,000.00
13 to \$250,000.00. There is a \$5,000.00 JVTa assessment and a
14 mandatory special assessment of \$200.00.

15 Any objections to the calculations?

16 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

17 MR. GLASSMAN: No, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: After calculating the guidelines, I am
19 required to consider the relevant factors set out by Congress at
20 Title 18 United States Code, Section 3553(a) and to ensure that
21 I impose a sentence that is sufficient but not greater than
22 necessary to comply with the purposes of sentencing.

23 These purposes include the need for the sentence to
24 reflect the seriousness of the crime, to promote respect for the
25 law and to provide just punishment for the offense.

1 The sentence should also deter criminal conduct,
2 protect the public from future crime by the defendant and
3 promote rehabilitation.

4 In addition to the guidelines and policy statements, I
5 am required to consider the nature and circumstances of the
6 offense, the history and characteristics of the defendant, the
7 need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparities among similarly-
8 situated defendants and the types of sentences available.

9 Mr. Glassman, do you wish to present any argument
10 about the factors in 3553(a) or otherwise, make a sentencing
11 recommendation on behalf of the defendant?

12 MR. GLASSMAN: Yes, Judge, if I -- if I may.

13 My remarks are going to cover both issues under Booker
14 as well as what we are looking at here in terms of a mandatory
15 minimum sentence.

16 I want to make sure that the Court is aware, a good
17 deal of effort was put in to the pretrial phase of this matter.

18 As a matter of fact, I think, every effort was
19 exercised to avoid being here today before you with an
20 individual, who had no prior criminal history.

21 As a matter of fact, we were against a very tough
22 United States Attorney and there was communications to prior --
23 former -- counsel, with regard to a potential resolution. We
24 were able to --

25 MS. STEPHAN: If I could just object, briefly, your

1 Honor, if you don't mind me making a statement?

2 Technically, plea negotiations before trial or before
3 sentencing, are not the -- the privy of the Court, those would
4 go on between counsel and are not to be considered by the Court
5 at any point in time.

6 So, the fact that there were plea discussions, should
7 have no relevance and they are not appropriate for argument
8 here.

9 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Glassman, what is your
10 response --

11 MR. GLASSMAN: If I may, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: -- to that observation?

13 MR. GLASSMAN: The -- the purpose, I -- the purpose of
14 the argument, isn't to put any plea negotiations or anything
15 substantive with regard to that particular issue. The purpose
16 of the argument is to communicate what the defendant's, again,
17 state of mind had been throughout her representation, that
18 culminated in the trial.

19 It wasn't as if, the defendant wasn't presented with
20 options. It wasn't as if, she had a -- a lot of time to consult
21 with counsel about the fact that she is facing a horrific
22 mandatory minimum sentence.

23 So, I wanted to make sure that the Court was aware of
24 the fact as well -- in sentencing Ms. Norton -- that this was --
25 the trial was the product of a well thought out and a well

1 discussed and well evaluated conclusion on her part, maintaining
2 her reality, which is, essentially -- as I repeated earlier --
3 that she did not travel across state lines to have sex with the
4 minor.

5 So, that was the only purpose, I didn't want your
6 Honor to get the impression that we -- we just showed up, just
7 attended one or two conferences and then, elected to put the
8 case on the trial list. That -- that both sides were presented
9 to her and made available to her before the case, actually, was
10 set down for trial and -- and proceeded to trial. And that was
11 -- that was all I was trying to put forth.

12 In other words, the strength of her conviction,
13 overrode the pretrial phase of this case and -- and culminated
14 in the trial, so, hopefully, that's satisfactory.

15 THE COURT: All right, any objection to those remarks,
16 Ms. Stephan?

17 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MR. GLASSMAN: Right.

20 Now, as I said, an -- an individual can choose,
21 either, practicing civil law, business law, criminal law, a lot
22 of decisions in making a decision to go to criminal law, it's
23 because we like things black and white or as close to black and
24 white as possible. And then if, in fact, you need some
25 highlights here or there, they serve a particular purpose.

1 Here, things didn't exactly work out in -- in a black
2 and white fashion. And what I mean by that is, right now -- in
3 under an hour -- I am sitting next to an individual, who is
4 facing, I would say, on the best of all possible days, a
5 mandatory minimum sentence of -- of ten years in jail.

6 And in doing so, I just would ask the Court to
7 consider, what the facts are, that she is being sentenced to
8 that term of imprisonment for.

9 And again, putting it in the context of where we are
10 today in society, as -- as I said, I have a person with no prior
11 criminal history, who engaged in a sexually-explicit series of
12 conversations with -- with a minor, during an, otherwise,
13 permissible gaming relationship through the course of playing
14 with different individuals on the Internet.

15 This -- these conversations contained
16 misrepresentations, as the Court stated to both age and her
17 status as to whether or not, she had any child -- children.

18 There was an agreement to meet between these two
19 individuals and that meeting occurred across -- across state
20 lines.

21 They met and where did they meet? They met in a
22 public park in a public setting. What did they do, they talked
23 for a little over or under an hour. Both left their separate
24 ways. There wasn't an agreement between the two to meet up
25 later on that day and certain -- and that did not occur.

1 I believe, Ms. Norton attempted to contact the
2 individual, perhaps, by phone, but that did not materialize, it
3 wasn't successful. Ms. Norton returned to the area later on
4 that day, again, that was -- there was nothing further after
5 that, there was no meeting between the two individuals. And Ms.
6 Norton then, left, she crossed state lines and went back. No
7 further contact between Ms. Norton and this individual.

8 Those are, essentially, the facts.

9 Now, we could -- we could read the sexually-explicit
10 conversations and talk about how bad it is. We can understand
11 the fact, that having these kind of conversations with a minor
12 could have extraordinary, profound, long-lasting psychological
13 effects.

14 We could talk about the fact, that she took advantage
15 of the minor. We could talk about the fact, that she
16 misrepresented to a minor. There is a lot of things, that we
17 can talk about. And these are also, facts, they -- they can't
18 be disputed.

19 But the core facts of what we're dealing with here, it
20 is not an individual, who had sex with a minor, once or over the
21 course of a longer term. It -- there is nothing here that
22 suggests in any way, shape or form, that that was going to occur
23 beyond the body of the text exchanges that we have.

24 As a matter of fact, the other evidence that the Court
25 was -- that the jury was presented with -- was that it wasn't

1 gonna occur, obviously, in a park open to the public in -- in
2 mid-day.

3 So, in essence, when we'd look at the facts and we'd
4 look at the extraordinary sentence, that Ms. Norton is facing
5 now, the question would arise as, one, is it a sentence that
6 covers the concerns of Booker? All right, in other -- and your
7 Honor highlighted some of those -- some of those in determining
8 what -- what particular sentence to fashion.

9 And, certainly, at the end of the day with a sentence
10 like this, Ms. Norton isn't a risk to reoccur, there is nothing
11 here.

12 With a sentence of ten years, there isn't a risk that
13 that society in hearing these facts, isn't going to be alarmed
14 or concerned that Ms. Norton didn't pay a legitimate, acceptable
15 price for her -- for her behavior.

16 In other words, if we use the Booker analysis to these
17 facts and I would respectfully submit that these facts would not
18 protest, a -- a mandatory minimum sentence for -- for Ms.
19 Norton.

20 Certainly, when we'd look at the facts -- as I'm sure,
21 ah, the U.S. Attorney is going to bring up -- we can extrapolate
22 for a reason to enhance the sentence, behind the mandatory
23 minimum, perhaps, the number of the text exchanges, the fact
24 that she did misrepresent her age, things like that, we could
25 use that.

1 But is that process legitimate, when we're looking at
2 a sentence that is ten years -- ten years in a prison for
3 somebody, who did not have a sexual relations with the minor,
4 for someone, who did not meet the minor more than once, for
5 someone -- as I said -- who has no prior criminal history and
6 based on the totality of the facts that were put forth for the
7 -- before the jury?

8 That's the question that the Court -- that I would
9 ask, that the Court consider. And consider it, not on a surface
10 level, but consider it in terms of a deep analysis of what a
11 sentence is supposed to achieve.

12 Now, you know, the frightening thing about cases,
13 like, child pornography, sexual assault, cases that involve
14 minors, there is a threshold that the law considered when --
15 when evaluating what the penalties would be. And then there is
16 the societal impact and what they determined the penalties
17 should be.

18 And here, above and beyond, the mere time that Ms.
19 Norton is going to spend in -- in a -- I don't know -- a six-
20 foot something cell for a minimum of ten years. If you'd just
21 consider that, the fallout or the other baggage that a
22 conviction that she's gonna carry for the rest of her life, is
23 going to have on her ability to -- for employment opportunities,
24 her ability for social opportunities, across the board, it's a
25 social death sentence.

1 So, we have a sentence of a mandatory minimum and
2 then, we have a social death sentence. We have that on one side
3 of the scale. And then, we have the facts of the case on the
4 other.

5 The other important issue, that -- that again, going
6 back to the pretrial phase of this matter -- ah, sort of
7 strengthens, the effort that I put forward on Ms. -- Ms.
8 Norton's behalf is, I do a lot of state -- state work, including
9 different states. And you see that the laws and the different
10 impacts that those laws have on different fact patterns across
11 the way.

12 And when you read Booker and -- and you -- you read
13 that phrase, that one of the concerns the courts are supposed to
14 have is consistency. In other words, if you go here, you can
15 expect, this is gonna happen with these facts. And if you go
16 over here, you can expect that pretty much, the same thing is
17 gonna happen.

18 I cannot in good conscience say, that I agree that the
19 sentence that Ms. Norton is facing now and the circumstances
20 that are across different states with these similar types of
21 fact patterns, are in any way in alignment, they're not in
22 alignment, factually. They're not in alignment for a potential
23 sentence. They're not in alignment with evaluation by
24 prosecutors or courts. There is no alignment, whatsoever.

25 As a matter of fact, it's worse than that, because

1 sitting next to Ms. Norton faced with these charges, faced with
2 this sentence, faced with these facts, I can't look her in the
3 eye and say, that there's people in other situations in other
4 courts within a five hundred mile radius, that are facing the
5 repercussions and the sentence that she is facing based on these
6 facts. It just -- you can't do it, no matter how hard you'd
7 try.

8 Now, I'm not -- it's not to say, it's higher or lower
9 or the facts -- what it is to say is, that invariably, the
10 conduct is much, much worse and the sentences are much, much
11 lighter, than what Ms. Norton is remotely facing. Even if your
12 Honor elected to downward depart, it would still -- that
13 statement would still be true.

14 And that, in and of itself, makes it very difficult
15 when you used the phrase, effective assistance of counsel,
16 because, you know, a counsel in talking to a client, has to make
17 a credible argument for why they should do a certain thing, you
18 see? And here, looking at the sentence that Ms. Norton is
19 facing overall, it made those conversations, much, much more
20 difficult.

21 Less than forty-five minutes ago, in talking to Ms.
22 Norton, she related to me, that she's in a cell with, obviously,
23 state prisoners, who are sitting right next to her, that are
24 facing mere months in prison for actually engaging in sex with a
25 minor.

1 Ms. Norton makes that statement to me, a lot of times
2 when criminal defendants say something to their attorneys, we're
3 -- we're very good at discounting it, because they're charged
4 with crimes. And obviously, you can't believe everything that
5 they say.

6 Here, I -- I can't in good conscience in any way doubt
7 the veracity of Ms. Norton's statement in any way, shape or
8 form.

9 That's not an issue that your Honor can really do
10 anything about, but it is -- it is to say, that when we'd look
11 at the facts and when we'd look at the statutes that she's
12 facing and we'd walk outside and we hit the streets and we'd
13 interact with the public at large, on balance are all of the
14 interests of the criminal justice system served by a sentence,
15 anything more than the minimum mandatory?

16 I can't do anything about the minimum mandatory, all I
17 could have done is, I made sure Ms. Norton understood what was
18 going to happen and realized that it was her decision going
19 forward, if she wanted to proceed to trial and to make that in a
20 knowing and intelligent way. I can assure your Honor, that that
21 requirement was -- was fulfilled, there is no question about
22 that, it's her decision.

23 And as I said, this case began, continued and ended on
24 the same statement and that is that, Ms. Norton maintains that
25 she did not travel across state lines to engage in sex with this

1 minor.

2 And that's the real -- her reality and she is the one
3 that's responsible for it. She has to now, pay the price for
4 it. It isn't my function to take away her reality, only to let
5 her know what the -- what the ramifications were for her in
6 having it. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Well, the defendant has a right to make a
8 statement and also, the right to present any -- any witnesses.

9 Mr. Glassman, are there any witnesses, you'd like to
10 present?

11 MR. GLASSMAN: Judge, as you can see, there's
12 individuals from Ms. Norton's family in the courtroom.

13 And I will note for the record, I am ninety-nine
14 percent certain, that none of these individuals -- or maybe, one
15 -- was present during any portion of the trial.

16 I -- I just wrote that, because Ms. Norton went
17 through a trial where she -- she hid from her family, what was
18 going on and then, all of the sudden, after the conviction, I
19 started to get calls from -- from shocked -- shocked
20 individuals.

21 I asked them, wanted to address the Court, they
22 indicated that most have written letters to your Honor, that
23 what was expressed in the letters was sufficient.

24 So, no, we don't have any -- anything to present.

25 THE COURT: All right.

1 Ms. Norton, you have the right to make a statement on
2 your own behalf, if you would like to, you are not required to
3 do so, but you may, if you would like.

4 Would you like to say, something on your behalf?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Ah, I would.

6 THE COURT: Go ahead.

7 THE DEFENDANT: Ah, obviously, you know, I've been --
8 ah -- in the -- the county jail for over a year now. Ah, it's a
9 -- a hard reality, ah, in there.

10 Ah, you find yourself, I don't know how else to say
11 it, it's -- you don't find yourself sitting by yourself in a
12 cell by, you know, twenty-four hours a day, it's -- it's a lot.

13 Ah, but I feel like, the judgment that's cast upon me,
14 that I wish it would be individualized and not to be, just in to
15 this great, wide variety of all these sex crimes and just put me
16 in there. And not look at, what was done, my state of mind,
17 what happened after, you know, how -- how -- how bad was the
18 damage, that I -- that I caused.

19 And in this instance, I, like, I'm just thrown in a
20 category with a whole bunch of different things. And I would
21 just like to be looked at individually, like, I told my lawyer
22 earlier, it's hard to accept the fact that I'm sitting in the
23 same state, in the same jail, in the same cell with people, that
24 had consensual sex with minors.

25 People that, you know, sold kids, ah, people that have

1 done child pornography, ah, people that even ran somebody over
2 with a car.

3 And I just, like, it's just hard for me to think that,
4 I could have did anything and received a less sentence. I could
5 have got in my car, drunk and killed him. I could have shot him
6 in the leg, I could have did -- and really hurt him and I would
7 have received, like, a less sentence.

8 So, I just -- I don't under -- you know, really, get
9 how so -- ah, based on what I did and what other people have
10 done, I just -- I don't understand the -- the drastic different
11 years of sentencing that is occurring. I just -- it's -- it's
12 hard for me to fathom. And, ah, I just wish that, I could be
13 looked at, individually.

14 I said from the beginning, that I was on a mental
15 breakdown for about six weeks, six weeks of my life, it was a
16 spiral down. I can't express it, how many times, like, I was so
17 out of my mind, I was inflicting self-harm, pulling my hair out,
18 cutting myself, I tried to commit suicide. All of this within
19 six weeks and me having these conversations with the minor.

20 Like, I was not mentally sound and I just -- I just
21 wanted you to consider that, because I didn't just wake up one
22 day and decide any of this. Like, I really -- I would just like
23 you to consider that. Because there's -- I was not mentally
24 sound. I became -- I wouldn't talk to people, I ignored my
25 friends. I wouldn't go to social gatherings.

1 I really, hated -- hated my life, I hated that I was
2 putting everybody through stuff, always being sick, working to
3 go to the hospital, from the hospital to work.

4 And doing that for two years, straight, I had a mental
5 breakdown after two years of doing that for six weeks of my life
6 and the six weeks of my life, is the most terrible time and now,
7 I am facing ten years in jail.

8 And I -- I just would like to be looked at
9 differently, than, ah, just thrown in as -- for a normal
10 predator or whatever it is, that goes on.

11 I wasn't looking for anything, I wasn't profiling,
12 searching people's profile pictures, I weren't going on
13 websites, I weren't looking at pictures. I wasn't looking to
14 get into anything, it just occurred and I allowed it to happen.

15 And I would just like you to -- to take that into
16 consideration.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 Mr. Glassman, anything else from the defense?

19 MR. GLASSMAN: Ah, no, your Honor, that's all, thank
20 you.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 Let's turn to the Government, Ms. Stephan, do you want
23 to advance any arguments about the factors in 3553(a) or
24 otherwise, make a sentencing recommendation?

25 MS. STEPHAN: Yes, your Honor, thank you.

1 First, I want to start off by -- I think -- correcting
2 or highlighting some facts, based upon the defense presentation.

3 The one thing that I think keeps coming up over and
4 over and over again, obviously, is that she had no sexual
5 intent, that was not part of this, she denies it to this day,
6 that she did not go back to the park that afternoon.

7 Again, as I already mentioned in my argument as far as
8 the objections to the PSR, we already know that she went back to
9 the park, a fact that they continue to represent, did not
10 happen.

11 We know it as fact, we know it from her texts, we know
12 it from the GPS records, she went back to the park, they
13 continue to put that forward.

14 Also, we know from the trial testimony, that she asked
15 for a late checkout, that shows or it demonstrates that she
16 wasn't leaving right away. We have -- we presented the hotel
17 records at trial to show, she asked and paid extra for a late
18 checkout. Once again, I think that bodes with, she wasn't
19 leaving town, she was planning on staying.

20 And they -- they make a point of always saying, no sex
21 occurred, thank goodness, no sex occurred.

22 But, one, she's not convicted of having sex with a
23 minor. She is here today to face punishment for enticing a
24 minor and traveling across state lines with the intent to have
25 sex with the minor.

1 What we know is, but for the defendant's father
2 finding out about, what was going on, that minor child,
3 probably, would have gone back to the park that afternoon. It
4 was only because his father thought, things seemed strange and
5 checked his phone that he found out, what was going on and
6 forbid his son to go back.

7 Once again, your Honor, we know that she was waiting
8 in the park for him and texting him, where are you? I feel so
9 stupid.

10 So, the fact that no sex occurred, takes nothing away
11 from the fact that that is exactly what she intended, that's
12 exactly what she wanted and but for a father being attentive, it
13 probably would have occurred. But once again, your Honor,
14 that's not why she's being sentenced.

15 The other argument they make is to comparing the
16 sentence to state-court sentences. I'd submit to your Honor,
17 that has no relevance here.

18 I would point out, that we could look at this a little
19 bit differently, that whatever the sentence -- sentencing
20 guidelines differ from the state guidelines, it doesn't mean the
21 federal sentencing guidelines are wrong, it doesn't mean, the
22 punishment is wrong.

23 If you'd want to accept the fact, that state sentences
24 are lower, maybe, the focus should be, they are wrong, child
25 predators should get big sentences, they should have to go to a

1 jail for a long time, they are dangerous to children, they are
2 dangerous to our community. So, saying her sentence is
3 different, maybe, the state needs to take a look at what they're
4 doing, not take a look at what we're doing.

5 Because, once again, your Honor, it is paramount that
6 punishment happens, deterrence happens and protection of the
7 community happens here and that's why these crimes are
8 considered very serious.

9 When the defendant talked, she talked about, while she
10 was in jail, you know, she found herself, you know, she has a
11 lot of time to do that. The one thing that was crystal-clear,
12 she did not yet find her way to the truth, that is crystal-
13 clear. She still maintains her innocence, sitting here today as
14 a convicted person.

15 That also shows, she has zero remorse for her actions.
16 If she can't admitted that she did any wrong, how can she have
17 remorse for not doing anything wrong? And again, that doesn't
18 bode well for her in my opinion.

19 She is begging to be looked at as an individual. I'd
20 say, let's do that. My whole argument is looking at her as an
21 individual. What an -- she uses the word, predator, like,
22 somehow, she's not part of that group of people in jail, who are
23 predators, who are getting less time than she is.

24 I think, she needs a wake-up call, she is a predator,
25 that's what she did, she preyed on a fourteen-year-old boy, that

1 is the definition of predator, what she did.

2 So, I want to examine each of them, we know that she
3 came across state lines to sexually abuse a boy. We know that
4 she sent sexually-explicit messages to that boy over a period of
5 time. If that's not egregious enough, I want to point to
6 several facts that make it a much more egregious crime.

7 So, we already know from the presentation here today
8 as well that, at first, she started off this relationship with
9 deception. She said, she was a twenty-five-year-old woman with
10 no kids, not in a relationship and presented herself, sort of
11 as, you know, a -- kind of a girlfriend figure, there was a lot
12 of flirtation going back and forth.

13 As I said earlier in my presentation today, had she
14 not said she was a twenty-five-year-old woman, we may not be
15 sitting here today. I'm not so sure, if the victim would have
16 continued to talk to a thirty-eight-year-old woman with three
17 kids, two of which were as old or older than he was.

18 Second, in targeting the child, she routinely wanted
19 to make sure, she didn't get caught. Again, as the trial
20 evidence pointed out, she made several statements to him about
21 him sneaking away from the parents, making sure, the parents
22 didn't know. Some exact statements are:

23 So, if I come out there, any issues with me
24 stealing you away, I don't want to get you in trouble.

25 And honestly, do you have any -- do you have parental

1 supervision wherever you go?

2 And, again, I'd point out at the times of her crime,
3 her own son was fourteen years old, the same age as the victim
4 in this case. As a mother, you would think that she would know,
5 the kind of harm that she was causing to a boy, the same age as
6 her own child.

7 But her only concern, your Honor, was making sure that
8 the boy didn't get caught, so she didn't get caught, that was
9 her focus. That is not the mind of a caring mother, your Honor,
10 that's the mind of a predator.

11 Third, she toyed with him and she played mind games
12 with him, this was all throughout her communications, it was
13 almost, like, a cat toying with a mouse. She kind of would roll
14 him in, drag him in and then, push him away a little bit and
15 then, bring him in again and then, push him away a little again.

16 These were adult mind games she was playing with a
17 fourteen-year-old boy, who was no match for her, he was a naive,
18 inexperienced teenaged boy, who hadn't had any kind of adult
19 life relationship in his life, nor should he have. And she
20 changed all of that -- independently, she changed all of that.

21 And she played these mind games with him. She would
22 tell him:

23 I'm kind of disappointed with you, I wanted to see
24 you, I told you before, I knew -- I knew you were fucking
25 with my head and I chose to listen to you, again, fool me,

1 once. So, really, fuck you, Sam.

2 Another one was:

3 I don't know, I was gonna drive eight hours to visit
4 you and you're acting like, you can't be bothered. I'm
5 tired of throwing myself at you, there's only so much
6 rejection, I can take from one person.

7 There was also a series of communications in which she
8 almost seems to be throwing a little bit of a hissy fit, that
9 she thinks that he might have a girlfriend in school his same
10 age. Almost, like, she was suspecting he was cheating on her,
11 that was sort of the nature and the tone of the communications,
12 that were presented at trial.

13 She also said:

14 I never, ever threw myself at anybody and you're
15 tossing me to the side, I can't do it, it's really ironic
16 how you actually, show enthusiasm after the fact.

17 Another statement was:

18 So, why bullshit me earlier about wanting to see me.

19 Once again, this is all the psychological manipulation
20 with a boy, who was no match for her.

21 Third, the nature of the communications are -- are
22 nothing short of shocking. I mean, you heard them all. I am
23 going to repeat them here today, because I think -- some of them
24 -- because I think, they're worthy of repeating. I think, it
25 sets in the mind, who this woman was communicating with a

1 fourteen-year-old boy and obviously, what her clear intent was.

2 One of her statements was:

3 Just try to forgive me, after I get done with you,
4 especially, the first time we do it, 'cause I'm sexually
5 frustrated, 'cause of you and you're a virgin and I'm
6 gonna tear that dick up.

7 She also said:

8 I tried to tell you, I was dead serious, my pussy,
9 physically, hurts because I want -- I want you inside
10 me that bad, it's horrible for me.

11 She also says:

12 I like teasing you during my peak hours.

13 So, your Honor, these communications, well, we have no
14 other interpretation, none whatsoever. This is why she
15 traveled, this is what the jury found and these were sexually
16 explicit.

17 If you recall from the trial testimony, she also
18 talked about a pillow, that she named after him, her Sam pillow,
19 that she would hug at night and pretend it was him.

20 I mean, once again, your Honor, these are things, she
21 is saying to a fourteen-year-old boy, this raises the crime,
22 this makes it more egregious.

23 Fourth, she also mentioned -- which was not part of
24 her -- her argument today -- but it was part of the trial
25 testimony or, at least, what she was trying to get across at

1 trial. It was that, she wanted to help Sam, that he had some
2 challenge in his -- in his life and she was just there to help.

3 And, your Honor, once again, that is almost laughable,
4 the problems that this boy had in his life, were directly caused
5 by her -- by her actions.

6 Sure, this boy came with his own troubles. You couple
7 that with the fact, that he's a teenaged boy and all teenaged
8 boys have their own issues in life.

9 But she took that situation and she made it worse,
10 nothing about what she did with a fourteen-year-old boy made his
11 life better, nothing. And again, as a mother, your Honor, she
12 should have known better.

13 It is also worthy to point out, that this went on over
14 a period of time, this wasn't, you know, over a day, over an
15 hour or over even a couple of days, this went on for a period of
16 time, at any point in time, she could have stopped. At any
17 point in time, she could have said, oh, my gosh, what am I
18 doing, I'm a mom, I should know better, she didn't.

19 What the trial evidence showed, is that her crime only
20 escalated, her texts only escalated, her level of manipulation
21 with this child escalated. At any point in time, she could have
22 realized what she was doing was wrong.

23 This is almost not like one crime, every time, she
24 sent a sexually-charged message, every time she -- you know --
25 sent some kind of enticing text, it's almost like a separate

1 crime over and over and over again. She had the opportunity to
2 stop at any point in time and she didn't do so.

3 Your Honor, she points out that she was having some
4 kind of mental breakdown or was not mentally sound. She had
5 some challenges in her life, had her medical conditions, that's
6 all well and good.

7 But I think, you can say that about a lot of people, a
8 lot of people have medical challenges, a lot of people have
9 trouble struggling mentally, it doesn't cause them to target a
10 sexually -- target a fourteen-year-old boy sexually. It doesn't
11 cause them to travel across state lines to have sexual contact
12 with a minor. It doesn't cause them to play mind games with a
13 fourteen-year-old boy, none of that is justification.

14 Except, all of that is true, but it does not release
15 her from any liability for what she has done and once again,
16 your Honor, she continues to fail to really appreciate that
17 fact.

18 Now, Sam's father wanted to come today and he was
19 prepared to come to some of the prior hearing dates, but
20 unfortunately, he had to work, so he couldn't be here. But he
21 did send a letter.

22 And I think, what the letter indicates is that, Sam
23 has never been the same, he has never been the same kid as
24 before Ms. Norton came into his life and that is the cold
25 realty. She has refused to admit, she did anything to cause

1 this boy -- boy any kind of problems.

2 In her statement today, there was not one shred of an
3 inkling of remorse or acknowledgment for what she has done to
4 family.

5 So, the bottom line, your Honor, is she aggressively
6 targeted this fourteen-year-old boy, her behavior was predatory,
7 it was narcissistic, it was manipulative.

8 We can never truly fully appreciate the harm that it's
9 caused to the fourteen-year-old boy, but what we know very
10 clearly is that she has single-handedly changed that child's
11 life and changed that family's life and his scars will last a
12 lifetime.

13 And for all of these reasons, your Honor, I think she
14 deserves the high end of the guideline sentence. Thank you.

15 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

16 I am prepared to pronounce and impose the sentence.

17 Pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 and
18 after assessing the particular facts of this case in light of
19 the Section 3553(a) factors, it is the judgment of this Court,
20 that the defendant is sentenced to one hundred and sixty-eight
21 months of imprisonment on each of Counts 1 and 2, such terms to
22 run concurrently.

23 As to the nature and circumstances of the offense, the
24 defendant's sexually-explicit communications with the minor --
25 the victim -- occurred over several months.

1 The defendant misrepresented her age and the fact that
2 she did not have children in order to entice the minor victim to
3 engage in illicit sexual conduct. The defendant's chats, e-
4 mails and text messages grew increasingly explicit over time.

5 When the minor victim did not respond as the defendant
6 wanted, she got angry at him.

7 The defendant, who has three children of her own, one
8 several years older than the minor victim and one,
9 approximately, the same age, should have known how damaging her
10 conduct would be to a fourteen-year-old boy.

11 The letter from the minor victim's father, who was
12 also, himself, impacted by the defendant's crimes, has explained
13 in detail, the negative behavioral changes in the minor victim,
14 both at home and in school that resulted from the defendant's
15 conduct.

16 The minor victim talked about suicide and running
17 away. The minor victim was put on medication and was diagnosed
18 with certain medical conditions. Despite counseling and the
19 passage of time, the minor victim's father remains concerned
20 about his son's safety.

21 Even now, the defendant fails to recognize the
22 seriousness of her conduct and has refused to fully accept
23 responsibility for her actions.

24 As to the history and characteristics of the
25 defendant, the defendant has no convictions or arrests. She has

1 the support of family and friends, a number of whom are here
2 today. And also as witnessed in the various letters that have
3 been presented to me.

4 I have considered that the defendant has a kidney
5 disorder and the pain she experiences as a result.

6 The Court has also considered, the types of sentences
7 available and the need to avoid unwarranted sentencing
8 disparities among similarly-situated defendants.

9 For all of these reasons, the Court finds that, a
10 sentence in the middle of the guidelines is appropriate.

11 The defendant's request for a variance is denied.

12 The Court finds that the sentence is sufficient, but
13 not greater than necessary to deter criminal conduct, to protect
14 the public from further crimes of the defendant, to reflect the
15 seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law and
16 to provide just punishment.

17 The Court finds the defendant does not have the
18 ability to pay a fine and, therefore, there would be no fine in
19 this case.

20 Considering that the defendant can work while
21 incarcerated and again, after her release as well as her
22 education and work history, the Court finds that the defendant
23 has the ability to pay a JVTa assessment over the length of her
24 sentence. It is ordered that the defendant shall pay the JVTa
25 assessment in the amount of \$5,000.00.

1 It is recommended that the defendant participate in
2 the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program
3 and provide a minimum payment of \$25.00 per quarter towards the
4 assessment.

5 It is ordered that the defendant shall pay to the
6 United States, a special assessment of \$200.00, which shall be
7 due immediately.

8 Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be
9 placed on twenty years of supervised release on each of Counts 1
10 and 2 to run concurrently.

11 Within seventy-two hours of release from the custody
12 of the Bureau of Prisons, the defendant shall report to the U.S.
13 Probation office in the district to which the defendant is
14 released.

15 While on supervised release, the defendant is subject
16 to the following standard conditions -- I have to read these to
17 you now, but you are going to get a printed list of these later
18 on:

19 First, she shall not commit any other federal, state
20 or local crime. She shall be prohibited from possessing a firearm
21 or other dangerous device. She shall not possess an illegal
22 controlled substance and shall comply with the other standard
23 conditions that have been adopted by this Court.

24 Second, the defendant must submit to one drug test
25 within fifteen days of the commencement of the supervised

1 release and at least, two tests thereafter as determined by the
2 Probation officer.

3 Third, the defendant shall submit to the collection of
4 a DNA sample at the direction of the Probation officer, pursuant
5 to Section 3 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of
6 2000.

7 In addition, the defendant shall comply with the
8 following special conditions:

9 First, the defendant shall participate in a mental-
10 health program for evaluation and/or treatment and abide by the
11 rules of any such program until satisfactorily discharged.

12 Second, the defendant shall participate in a sex-
13 offender evaluation and/or treatment and abide by the rules of
14 any such program until satisfactorily discharged.

15 Third, the defendant shall register with the state sex
16 offender registration agency in any state where she resides, is
17 employed, carries on a vocation or is a student as directed by
18 the Probation officer.

19 Fourth, the defendant shall report to the U.S.
20 Probation office any regular contact with children of either sex
21 under the age of eighteen. And the defendant shall not obtain
22 employment or perform volunteer work, which includes regular
23 contact with children under the age of eighteen.

24 Fifth, the defendant shall submit to an initial
25 inspection by the U.S. Probation office and to any examinations

1 during supervision of the defendant's computer and any devices,
2 programs or applications. The defendant shall allow the
3 installation of the hardware or software systems which monitor
4 or filter computer use.

5 The defendant shall abide by the standard conditions
6 of computer monitoring and filtering that will be approved by
7 the Court.

8 The defendant is to pay the cost of the computer
9 monitoring, not to exceed the monthly contractual rate in
10 accordance with the Probation officer's discretion.

11 Sixth, the defendant shall provide the U.S. Probation
12 office with a full disclosure of -- of her financial records to
13 include yearly income tax returns upon the request of the U.S.
14 Probation office. The defendant shall cooperate with the
15 Probation officer in the investigation of her financial dealings
16 and shall provide truthful monthly statements of her income.

17 Seventh, the defendant is prohibited from incurring
18 any new credit charges or opening additional lines of credit
19 without the approval of the Probation officer, unless she is in
20 compliance with the payment schedule for the JVTa assessment.

21 The defendant shall not encumber or liquidate any
22 interest in any asset, unless it is in the direct service of the
23 JVTa obligation or otherwise, has the expressed approval of the
24 Court.

25 Eighth, the defendant shall satisfy any amount still

1 owing on the JVTA assessment in monthly installments of not less
2 than fifty dollars to commence thirty days after release from
3 confinement.

4 Ninth, the defendant shall notify the U.S. Attorney
5 for this district within thirty days of any change of mailing
6 address or residence that occurs while any portion of the
7 assessment remains unpaid.

8 Ms. Norton, as to your appeal rights, you have the
9 right to appeal your conviction and the right to appeal your
10 sentence. Any notice of appeal, must be filed within fourteen
11 days of the entry of judgment or within fourteen days of the
12 filing of a notice of appeal by the Government.

13 If requested, the Clerk will prepare and file a notice
14 of appeal on your behalf. If you cannot afford to pay the cost
15 of an appeal or for appellate counsel, you have the right to
16 apply for leave to appeal *in forma pauperis*. If approved,
17 counsel will be appointed for you and you will not be required
18 to pay any costs.

19 The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United
20 States Marshals.

21 Before we adjourn, is there anything else to come
22 before the Court on this matter?

23 MS. STEPHAN: And, your Honor, just for the purposes
24 of the appellate record, I am assuming that the defendant's
25 arguments that she had health problems and claimed mental-health

1 issues was considered in rendering your opinion and your
2 sentence?

3 THE COURT: It was --

4 MS. STEPHAN: Thank you, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: -- yes.

6 MR. GLASSMAN: Judge, I would simply ask that -- the
7 family has mentioned, the location of where she's going to be
8 incarcerated or at least, for now, be as close to the --
9 Connecticut -- or the town in Connecticut as humanly possible?

10 THE COURT: Any objection?

11 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 I'll make that recommendation.

14 MR. GLASSMAN: Thank you -- that you very much.

15 THE COURT: As you know, I can't require it, I can
16 only recommend it.

17 MR. GLASSMAN: Sure, I understand, absolutely.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MR. GLASSMAN: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Anything else before we adjourn?

21 MS. STEPHAN: No, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Wood --

23 MR. GLASSMAN: I did want to thank your staff, ah --

24 THE COURT: Pardon?

25 MR. GLASSMAN: -- I wanted to thank your staff, this

1 case was scheduled for -- I -- I don't even know how many times
2 and they've always been very gracious to my office and
3 accommodated any questions that we had. And I just wanted to
4 say, it was really a great experience, thank you.

5 THE COURT: Thank you. All right.

6 Mr. Wood, would you adjourn court, please?

7 DEPUTY CLERK: Yes, sir.

8 Court is adjourned.

9 (Adjourned in this matter at 3:17 p.m.)

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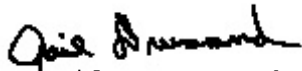
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, a court-appointed transcriber, certify
that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the
electronic-sound recording of the proceeding in the above-
entitled matter.



Gail Drummond
28 8th Avenue
Haddon Heights, New Jersey 08035
(856) 546-6270

Date: March 14, 2021